

Remarks

Claims 15-18 and 20-42 are pending.

Applicant hereby affirms the election of Group II (claims 15-42) for prosecution in the present application.

In response to the objection to the drawings under 35 U.S.C. § 132, Applicant submits herewith for the Examiner's approval a red-lined version of Figure 5 where "IP" has been replaced by "Application."

In response to the double-patenting rejection, Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to Co-Pending Application No. 09/981,666.

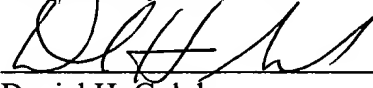
In response to the indefiniteness rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, the claims have been amended to address the informalities raised by the Examiner.

All pending claims stand rejected as obvious over Cleary et al. in view of Berg et al. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are not obvious over the cited references. Each of the pending independent claims, as amended, requires the encoding or decoding of "UDP packets that include ... frame header information generated at the application layer [of the OSI model]." This aspect of the invention is described, for example, on Fig. 5 of the application as originally filed. Neither Cleary et al. nor Berg et al. teaches encoding or decoding of "UDP packets that include ... frame header information generated at the application layer [of the OSI model]" as required by each of the pending independent claims.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims define over the cited references and are therefore allowable. A Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees due in connection with this filing, including any fees for extra claims, to Deposit Account 50-0310. A duplicate of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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